

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/766,100

Examiner

TISHA D. LEWIS

Applicant(s)

ALBERTSON, WILLIAM C.

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on October 10, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 11-16 and 18-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a response to the amendment received on October 10, 2006 which has been entered.

Response to Amendment

Claims 1-8, 11-16 and 18-26 are pending in the application. Claims 9, 10 and 17 are cancelled.

-The 112 2nd rejection of claims 9-16 has been withdrawn due to the cancellation of claim 9.

-The 103(a) rejection of claims 9, 10, 17, 20, 24, 25 and 26 has been withdrawn due to the cancellation of claims 9 and 17.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-8, 11-16 and 18-26 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of reference does not disclose or render obvious a motivation to provide for:

-(as to claim 1) a method for managing torque in a hybrid vehicle wherein an electric machine is used to smooth disturbances in engine torque during a deactivation transition in which the engine is operating with less than all cylinders active from an activated mode and in combination with the remaining limitations of claim 1.

-(as to claim 11) a method for managing torque in a hybrid vehicle wherein an electric machine is used to smooth disturbances in engine torque during a transition between a deactivated mode and an activated mode and the electric machine using

excess engine torque to generate electricity when the engine torque is greater than a desired torque and in combination with the remaining limitations of claim 11.

-(as to claim 13) a method for managing torque in a hybrid vehicle wherein an electric machine is used to smooth disturbances in engine torque during a reactivation transition between a deactivated and activated mode and during a deactivation transition in which the engine is operating with less than all cylinders active from an activated mode and in combination with the remaining limitations of claim 13.

-(as to claim 18) a torque management system for a hybrid vehicle wherein an electric machine is used to smooth disturbances in engine torque during transitions from a deactivated mode where less than all cylinders are active to an activated mode.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

-Tamai et al ('085) and Rayl ('684).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TISHA D. LEWIS whose telephone number is 571-272-7093. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, CHARLES A. MARMOR can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Tdl
February 19, 2007


TISHA LEWIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 3621 2/19/07